

AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES

FY 2004 HIGHLIGHTS

One mission of the farm program is to decrease inmate idleness and to cut budget costs for the taxpayer. During FY 2004 inmates worked 768,000 hours in the agriculture program.

For the crop year 2004 Agriculture Enterprises planted approximately 1,016.40 acres of vegetables, 353.30 acres of rice, 536.6 acres of wheat, 1,545.90 acres of corn, and 1,631.72 acres of soybeans.

The poultry facility is in full production with a 36,000-layer capacity. A total of 510,720 dozen eggs were delivered to MDOC food services with a non-cash value of \$453,455 in FY 2004.

The swine operation weaned 1,041 litters averaging 8.15 pigs per litter with 8,486 pigs weaned. The farrowing equated to an average of 2.22 litter/sow annually. Feeder hogs marketed totaled 7,143 for \$589,018.74. Mississippi Prison Agriculture Enterprises (MPAE) began shipping light hogs to an outside processor in May 2001. One thousand sixty four finishers and 71 cull sows have been processed with a total weight of 137,906 that was donated to MDOC food service with a value of \$100,974.48 during FY 2004. The breeding herd received 267 raised gilts in the herd. The current inventory for breeding, farrowing, nursery, and finishing is 4,381.

The inventory of commodities carried over from FY 2003 had a value of \$65,314.22. This figure includes seed, fertilizer, and chemicals not expended during FY 2004.

Non-cash sales for FY 2004 vegetable, egg sales, and pork processed were \$1,749,906. The total pounds of vegetable non-cash sale for FY 2004 was 3,457,966. Egg sales consist of 510,720 dozen.

Vegetable value is based on the USDA Atlanta Market Report. All processed vegetables and eggs were provided to the MDOC Food Service Department. MPAE has sold eggs and vegetables to some private correctional institutions and regional facilities to generate cash dollars of \$41,865.82.

On June 30, 2004, the Agriculture Enterprises Special Fund had a balance of \$1,012,577.65. Cash income received for Agriculture Enterprises, including deposits in transit, totaled \$2,555,530.21.

MPAE completed construction of the feed mill during FY 2002 year. The three 42,000 bushels grain bins are used for on-farm storage of corn grown by MPAE and is utilized by the feed mill. This is a cost savings on outside storage and trucking fees. The total cost of the feed mill was \$864,394.81. During FY 2004 the feed mill produced over 35 different feed rations for hog and chicken consumption. They produced 4,619.25 tons at a price to livestock of \$712,912.

The work staff includes 16 positions. At the present time 13 positions are filled and MPAE has (7) contract employees.